

REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 10, 18 and 22 are the independent claims.

Claims 9, 14, 17, 19, and 20 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claim 9 stands rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 as indefinite. In response, Applicants have amended claim 9 in view of the Examiner's comments. Applicants submit that claim 9 now even more fully satisfies the requirements of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6-18 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0193854 (Lee et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0038581 (Kawano et al.). Claims 2-5, 19-21, and 23-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (Lee et al.) in view of (Kawano et al.), in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6/510,121 (Iijima et al.). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, inter alia, at least one damping member disposed at a position where great changes in the optical pickup actuator occur when a magnetic driving unit drives the bobbin in one of the focusing, tracking, and tilting directions.

Independent claim 10 recites, inter alia, a damping member disposed at at least one location where changes of the actuator occur most frequently.

Independent claim 18 recites, inter alia, damping vibration of an optical pickup during tracking at at least one location where the great change occurs during an tracking

Independent claim 22 recites, inter alia, reducing a frequency of a second resonance peak of an optical pickup by damping vibration of the optical pickup during tracking at at least one location where the great change occurs during the tracking.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the asserted citations teaches or suggests at least the aforementioned features of independent claims 1, 10, 18, and 22. Thus, without conceding the propriety of the asserted combinations, Applicants submit that the asserted combinations also fail to teach or suggest at least the aforementioned features of

independent claims 1, 10, 18, and 22.

The Office Action acknowledges that Lee et al. does not teach or suggest any of the aforementioned features of independent claims 1, 10, 18, and 22. (Office Action, pages 3 and 5). Nonetheless, the Office Action rejects these claims contending that Kawano et al. provides the necessary teaching or suggestion and paragraph. (Office Action, pages 3 and 5). This contention is respectfully traversed.

Kawano et al. relates to an optical pickup and discusses an arrangement including an intermediate member 405 connected a lens holder 403 by four wires 404. (Kawano et al., (paragraphs [0017]-[0022]; FIG. 8). Kawano et al. discusses reducing unwanted resonance by using a gel damping member 408 filling an accommodating portion 405a of the intermediate member and surrounding the wires. (Kawano et al., paragraphs [0019] and [0020]; FIG. 8).

However, the intermediate member is attached to a yoke base 406. (Kawano et al., paragraph [0021]). Thus, it is fixed. Indeed, a printed circuit board 409 is secured to the intermediate member. (Kawano et al., paragraph [0021]). And, because the intermediate member is fixed, the gel damping member accommodated in the intermediate member cannot be at a position where great changes in the optical pickup actuator occur or where such changes occur most frequently. Thus, Kawano et al. does not remedy the acknowledged deficiency in Lee et al.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 10, 18, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of dependent claims 2-5, 19-21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, Ijima et al. relates to a an objective lens driving device including a damping member which has an opening on a main surface to allow an optical axis of a lens to pass through, and an optical pickup using the object lens driving device and is cited for its alleged disclosure of locating a damping member at a center portion of focusing coils. (Office Action, page 7). Applicant respectfully submits that Ijima et al. does not add anything to the teachings or suggestions of the combination of Lee et al. and Kawano et al. that would remedy the aforementioned deficiency.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-5, 19-21, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent

claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. However, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

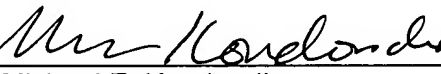
There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: 
Michael E. Kondoudis
Registration No. 42,758

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501